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GENERAL

Austrian treaty talks shift to economic articles --US representative Reber at the Austrian treaty talks in London reports that further discussion of the Yugoslav claims is futile and that he has agreed with the British and French representatives to pass to a consideration of the economic articles. According to Reber, British and French representatives believe that the USSR might yield on frontiers and reparations in return for economic concessions. Reber predicts that the British will be less insistent upon complete relinquishment by the USSR of its present control of industry in the Austrian eastern zone if there seems to be a possibility of agreement on certain economic clauses. Reber believes it important that present Soviet control of Austrian industry not be continued, but he observes that because the Austrians themselves are inclined to dismiss the need for safeguards against Soviet encroachment in the control of industry, US insistence on such safeguards might be misinterpreted and lend itself to Soviet propaganda.

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